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Advocate of Peace.

VOL. LXXI.

BOSTON, JULY, 1909.

No. 7

THE AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY,
PUBLISHERS,
31 BEACON STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

MONTHLY, ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR. TEN CENTS PER COPY

Entered at the Boston Post Office as Second Class Matter.

Make all checks payable to the American Peace Society. To personal checks on Western and Southern banks add ten cents for collecting.

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Mr. Bartholdt's Resolution in Congress.

On June 28 Hon. Richard Bartholdt, president of the United States Group of the Interparliamentary Union, introduced into Congress a concurrent resolution providing for the appointment of two commissions, one to study the subject of the method by which the judges may be selected for the proposed permanent international court of arbitral justice, the other to consider the problem of limitation of armaments. Each commission is to consist of three members whose salaries are to be \$7,500 a year each while they are engaged in the service. The President is requested by the resolution to ask all the powers represented at the second Hague Conference to take similar action, the purpose of the resolution being to secure the creation of competent international commissions to study these important subjects which were remitted to the governments by the second Hague Conference.

Mr. Bartholdt's resolution ought to be, and we believe will be, promptly adopted by both Houses of Congress. There is no time to lose. Two years will have passed in October since the second Hague Conference adjourned, and in about five or six years

the third Conference will assemble. The second Conference voted unanimously for the principle of a permanent International Court of Justice, and disagreed only on the manner in which the judges should be selected. This point they referred to the governments at home for determination. On the matter of limitation of expenditures on armaments the Conference took no practical action. It did, however, recognize the seriousness of the problem, and passed a resolution declaring that "it is eminently desirable that the governments should resume the serious examination of this question."

It is high time that this serious examination should begin, if the third Hague Conference is to be in a position to do anything effective toward the solution of the problem. No practical study has yet been made of the subject. Nor do we believe that any consideration of it by private commissions, such as that already created in this country in accordance with a recommendation of the International Peace Congress, can ever meet the requirements of the case. Such commissions may do something to prepare the way, but only the governments themselves are in a position to create and adequately finance the machinery for the full investigation of the matter. They can do it, and the second Hague Conference has made it their imperative duty to do it.

There is no doubt that Congress and the President will have the hearty support of the country in general in whatever practical steps they may take in the direction marked out in Mr. Bartholdt's resolution. The public demand has already become very widespread and strong that arrest of the present rivalry in armaments shall be effected at the earliest practicable moment. Resolutions to this effect are being adopted with great unanimity everywhere throughout the country, at all sorts of gatherings. No other question is so constantly in men's minds and upon their lips. The great deficit in the national treasury, coupled with the enormous increase of the naval budget, now \$136,000,000 for the coming twelve months, speaks a language which the people easily understand, and which designing jingoes and naval promoters cannot explain away. The plea that great armaments are necessary to preserve the peace of the world has lost its charm to the common ear. What the people know is that the greater the armaments the worse the alarms of war, as well as the heavier the burdens they have to bear.

The time has come for action. If Congress has a

heart the welfare of the people and the honor of the nation, it will not let the present special session close until it has authorized and instructed the President to act, as he is certainly strongly inclined personally to do. The step which Mr. Bartholdt suggests once taken, and the two commissions appointed, the other nations will eagerly follow our government's lead. They are, many of them, waiting and longing for the word to be spoken at Washington.

Edward Everett Hale.

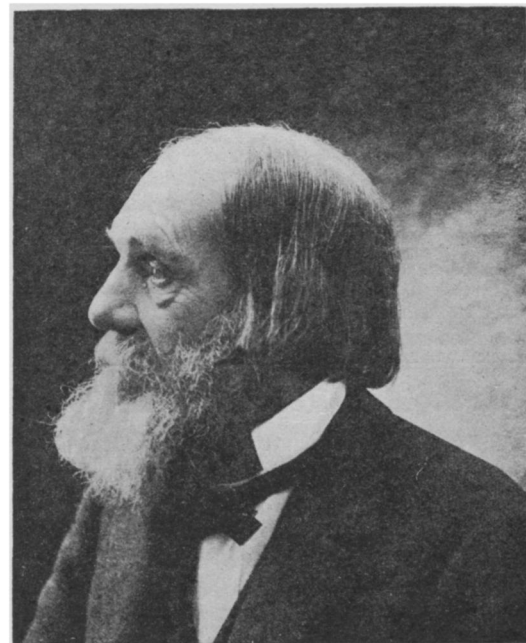
Dr. Hale, who died on June 9 at the ripe age of eighty-seven, had been for many years one of the most conspicuous figures connected with the arbitration and peace movement in America. It is only of this phase of his life that we can speak. Other journals must recite the story of his work as a preacher, an author and a philanthropist. For Dr. Hale was prominent in more lines of service than perhaps any other man of his time.

From the time when the first Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration was held in 1895, Dr. Hale attended and took a leading part in the Mohonk meetings till about two years ago, when his declining strength compelled him to forego attendance. His appearance in the speaker's place at these meetings was always the occasion of enthusiastic and prolonged applause. So it was at the Washington National Arbitration Conferences of 1896 and 1904, in both of which he figured conspicuously.

The one theme about which Dr. Hale's thought and speech centred was that of a permanent international tribunal. Many years before the Mohonk Conferences began he had already begun to discuss the subject in sermons, addresses and magazine articles. His work in this direction seems to have sprung from his intense patriotism. Our union of States in the national government he considered one of the most extraordinary accomplishments of history. The United States was to him, therefore, the greatest peace society in the world, and the National Supreme Court the greatest agency for peace within our wide domain. Over and over again in his speeches and articles he used this illustration, and urged that this great example must be followed by the nations of the world if they wished to establish peace among themselves on enduring foundations. Those who heard him in the earlier Mohonk Conferences, from 1895 to 1898, will never forget the strength, the impressiveness and the humor of his words as he sounded out the great phrase, "a permanent international tribunal." It will *exist*, he said in substance, and by and by some two nations will refer a dispute, no matter how unimportant, to it, and then the august tribunal will have started on its wonderful career of promoting justice and preserving peace among the nations. How closely the subsequent history made by the

Hague Conferences and related events has followed the line of his prophecy hardly needs to be pointed out.

When the Czar of Russia issued his famous Rescript in August, 1898, calling for a conference of the governments to try to find relief from the burdens of the great armaments, following it with a second Rescript a little later, placing the subject of arbitration upon the program, Dr. Hale was greatly stirred. He felt that the moment had come for a supreme effort for the establishment of the great tribunal for which he had already for years been pleading. He threw himself, like a young reformer, into a campaign to arouse the public to make the forthcoming Conference a great success. In the spring of 1899 he initiated a series of great noon meetings in Tremont Temple, Boston, under the name of the Peace Crusade. He superintended the editing and publishing, in connection therewith, of a paper under the same title, *The Peace Crusade*, which he kept up till the first



EDWARD EVERETT HALE.

Hague Conference was closed. In this way he exerted a powerful influence, not only in Boston and New England, but in other parts of the land.

The columns of *Lend a Hand*, the organ of his Lend a Hand Societies, he devoted to the same end, and afterwards continued to do this to the end of his life. Dr. Hale also went up and down the country, addressing all sorts of societies and public meetings in the interests of the Conference called by the Czar. He met in many places much skepticism as to any good coming from the Conference. But this he always met with an optimism as cheerful and ready-witted as it was serious and earnest.